

Remarks and Arguments

Claims 1-5, 7-14 and 16-25 have been presented for examination. Claims 1, 10, 19 and 23 have been amended. Claim 22 has been canceled.

Claims 1-5, 7-14 and 16-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,748,555 (Teegan, previously cited) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,769,022 (DeKoning.) The examiner comments that the Teegan patent discloses the invention substantially as claimed, with the exception that it does not explicitly disclose a configuration notifier that generates configuration change events and forwards them to an event service when any changes are made to the recited category list. However, the examiner asserts that the DeKoning reference discloses such a configuration notifier. Consequently, the examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Teegan and DeKoning in order to integrate the connected computer's monitoring activities.

The Teegan patent and its disclosure has been discussed in detail in a response to a previous office communication. As mentioned there and admitted by the examiner, Teegan discloses no mechanism that informs other computers when a change is made to an activity in one computer. The DeKoning patent discloses a monitoring system for devices connected to a network. The system allows a user, via a management program, to configure a device. When the device configuration changes, the changed device issues update notifications to all management entities on the network. The management entities receive the update notification via event notification receivers.

The reason that the configuration notifier is required in the present invention is that all of the configuration beans operating on different hosts contain the same category list so that they all respond to events in the same manner. In particular, when a configuration bean is started, it requests and receives the current configuration. See the present specification at page 14, line 26 to page 15, line 10. Thereafter, the bean receives configuration change notices so that it can update its configuration to keep it current. The Teegan patent system does not replicate the logic that responds to events in different software managers. Instead, one manager responds to a specific set of events and generates an alert. Then the alerts are broadcast between software managers. This is evident in Teegan, Figure 13 and the accompanying description at

column 16, lines 33-49. Such a system would have difficulties if two different software managers generated the same alert. Therefore, there would be no motivation to combine Teegan with DeKoning because the Teegan system has no need to maintain the same event response logic in different software managers. Although the examiner claims that it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Teegan and DeKoning in order to achieve integration of monitored activities, this assumes that such integration was possible and desirable. Since Teegan does not need this integration and would have to be modified in order to achieve it, the motivation for such a combination can only be found from the teachings of the present invention, which is clearly improper. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-14 and 16-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is hereby respectfully traversed.

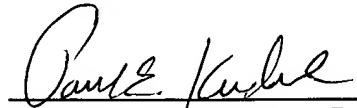
In order to make it clear that the category list is replicated in all configuration beans, the independent claims have been amended to recite this fact. Claim 1 is illustrative. It now recites "... a category list of selected events, wherein the category list contains the same events in all of the federated beans ..." Therefore, it is clear that all beans contain the same configuration information. Independent claims 10, 19 and 23 have been amended in a similar fashion.

Claim 22 has been canceled in order to avoid a potential rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101.

In light of the forgoing amendments and remarks, this application is now in condition for allowance and advancement to issue is respectfully requested. If the examiner has any further questions regarding this amendment, he is invited to call

applicants' attorney at the number listed below. The examiner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or direct any payment under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, 1.16 to Deposit Account number 02-3038.

Respectfully submitted



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